



Department of Justice

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District of Massachusetts

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CONVICTED FELON SENTENCED TO 235 MONTHS IN PRISON FOR FIREARMS CHARGES

BOSTON, MA - A former Las Vegas man was sentenced today in federal court for various firearms charges.

United States Attorney Michael J. Sullivan and Glenn N. Anderson Special Agent in Charge of the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives, Boston Field Division, announced today that **JOHN MICHAEL PAKALA**, age 40, formerly of Las Vegas, NV, and Memphis, TN, was sentenced to 19 years' and 7 months' imprisonment, to be followed by 3 years of supervised release. **PAKALA** was convicted by a trial jury of being a felon in possession of firearms and for possession and sale of stolen firearms on February 2, 2006.

Evidence presented during trial proved that in June 2003, the defendant, a convicted felon, stole five firearms from the home of a Chelsea man who had allowed the defendant to stay with him. Enlisting the help of another man he met on the street, **PAKALA** sold the guns to some alleged gang members living in Chelsea.

PAKALA'S co-defendant Angel "Porky" Gonzales was convicted in a separate trial of possession and sale of stolen firearms and sentenced on December 7, 2005, to 96 months in prison.

The case was investigated by the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives, Boston Field Division and the Chelsea Police Department. It was prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Sandra S. Bower of Sullivan's Drug Task Force and Assistant U.S. Attorney Lisa M. Asiaf of Sullivan's Major Crimes Unit.

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